

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached Replacement Sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 2. This sheet, which includes FIG. 2, replaces the previously submitted Replacement Sheet including FIG. 2.

Attachment: 1 Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Applicants submit this Amendment in response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2007 accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Claims 11-20 are canceled. Claims 1-3, 5-9, and 21 are amended. Rejoinder of claim 10 is respectfully requested. Claims 22 and 23 are hereby added for examination on the merits. Accordingly, claims 1-10 and 21-23 are under consideration. No new matter has been added.

A charge to Deposit Account No. 13-2855 for the requisite RCE fee has been authorized with the electronic filing of this paper. No additional fees are believed to be necessary for proper entry and consideration of this Amendment. Nevertheless, if the Office deems otherwise, Applicants hereby authorize the Director to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 13-2855, Order No. 29488/39975.

In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims and the following remarks, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge the same.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants thank the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor for granting the courtesy of a telephone interview with Applicants' undersigned representative on March 28, 2007. Various claims, and most particularly, independent claim 1 was discussed in this interview in light of Shumway (U.S. Patent No. 6,540,093) and Loeb et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,255,744) No agreement was reached.

Furthermore, Applicants thank the Examiner for initiating a follow-up interview on March 29, 2007, wherein the Examiner recommended certain amendments to claim 1 that would place claim 1 in condition for allowance. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that the "singular" U-shaped structure of Applicants' apparatus was not disclosed in or known from Shumway and Loeb et al..

Applicants, by way of this Amendment, have incorporated language into the claims reflecting the Examiner's recommendations. Moreover, during the interview on March 29, 2007, the Examiner indicated that the objection to the Abstract would be withdrawn, but the drawing objections required correction. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that FIG. 2 of the drawings, as previously submitted, did not include sufficient detail to determined the

exact distinctions between elements 28 and 28a. Applicants' representative agreed to make the necessary drawing revisions to correct this deficiency.

REJOINDER

In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicants submit that previously withdrawn claim 10 depends from now allowable claim 1, and therefore, includes each and every limitation thereof. MPEP §821.04(a). Accordingly, rejoinder of previously withdrawn claim 10 is respectfully requested.

DRAWING OBJECTIONS

The drawings stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(b).

In accordance with the Examiner's recommendations during the telephone interview on March 29, 2007, a Replacement Drawing Sheet is submitted herewith to more particularly illustrate and reference the subject matter depicted in FIG. 2. No new matter has been added. Applicants submit that FIG. 2, as submitted in the Replacement Drawing Sheet, clearly identifies the distinction between the elements 28 and 28a.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the drawing objections.

ABSTRACT

Applicants again thank the Examiner for indicating, in the telephone interview on March 29, 2007, that the outstanding objection to the Abstract would be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-9 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Shumway (U.S. Patent No. 6,540,093) in view of Loeb et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,255,744).

Independent claims 1 and 21 have been amended herein in accordance with the Examiner's recommendations made during the telephone interview on March 29, 2007. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite "a singular U-shaped support structure comprising a pair of vertical frame members and a horizontal frame member, the support structure placed in confronting relation to the side wall of the product dump table..." Independent claim 21 has been amended to recite "...a one-piece U-shaped support structure

comprising a pair of generally vertical frame members and a generally horizontal frame member integrally associated with the vertical frame members...”

Neither Shumway nor Loeb, alone or in combination, teach each and every element of amended independent claims 1 and 21. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants submit that claims 2-9 are in condition for allowance as being dependent on allowable base claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these alleged obviousness rejections is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 22 and 23 have been added herein for examination on the merits. No new matter has been added. No fees are believed to be due for these added claims in light of the cancellation of claims 10-20. Neither Shumway nor Loeb, alone or in combination, disclose the subject matter of new claims 22 and 23, and therefore new claims 22 and 23 should be allowed.

Prompt and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all rejections, objections, and/or other concerns have been either traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. If there is any remaining issue that the Office believes may be remedied via telephone conference, Applicants hereby invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at (312) 474-6300.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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APPENDIX